



At St Mary's we champion every child to be the **best that they can be**. Our knowledge-led curriculum therefore endeavours to develop our children's **character**, **core skills**, **creativity** and sense of **community**.

Supported by our school's vision, ethos and position as a junior school, we believe that our specialist knowledge of the Key Stage 2 age range ensures **improving outcomes, opportunities and experiences for all our children**. To achieve this, we are aspirational for our pupils, instilling high expectations, the passion, perseverance and stamina to succeed.

# Modern Foreign Languages Policy

Ely St Mary's CofE Junior School

Written/reviewed by:	Alison Ashburn	Date:	December 2021
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Next review due by:	December 2026
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## 1. Introduction & Aims

This policy has been written and reviewed in line with the National Curriculum 2014.

The learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for the pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore differences and similarities between English other European Modern Foreign languages. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and introduces an international dimension to pupils' learning, giving them an insight into their own culture and those of others. The learning of a foreign language provides a medium for cross-curricular links and for reinforcement of knowledge, skills and understanding developed in other subjects.

The aims and objectives of learning a Modern Foreign Language in primary school are to:

- foster an interest in learning other languages;
- introduce young children to another language in a way that is enjoyable and fun;
- stimulate and encourage children's curiosity about language;
- encourage children to be aware that language has structure and that the structure differs from one language to another;
- help the children develop their awareness of cultural differences in other countries;
- develop their speaking and listening skills;
- lay the foundations for future study;
- extend language teaching beyond mother tongue learning.

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The children are taught how to:

- ask and answer questions;
- use correct pronunciation and grammar;
- memorise words;
- interpret meaning;
- understand basic grammar;
- work in pairs and groups and communicate in French;
- look at life in another culture.

## **2. Procedures and practice**

### **2.1 Teaching & Planning:**

In line with the National Curriculum, and to ensure consistency, children in all year groups are taught **French**.

The teaching of French at St. Mary's is based on the Primary Languages Network (PLN) scheme of work, to which the school subscribes. The Primary languages Network scheme of work which provides teachers with plans, interactive resources including lesson videos of French speakers (ideal for the non-specialist) paper resources

At St Mary's Junior School, French is currently taught to all children for approximately 30 minutes a week. Children are taught by class teachers in conjunction with the PLN interactive resources, which also provide video lessons taught by a native speaker to assist accurate pronunciation and delivery.

The lesson plans in the scheme approaches different topics in turn using a wide variety of activities that allow children to hear, see and practise speaking new vocabulary and sounds. This includes video lessons, games, stories and more immersive contexts and situations for using vocabulary, phrases and skills. The materials available with the scheme include printable resources and interactive resources.

There is a clear progression of skills within and across year groups. In accordance with the National Curriculum, there is a focus on development of skills. This moves from a focus on speaking and listening in years 3 and 4, towards a greater emphasis on reading and writing in years 5 and 6.

### **2.2 Organization & approach**

Teachers use a variety of techniques to encourage children to be actively engaged with Modern Foreign Language, including through the use of games, role play and action songs. Teachers try to make lessons as enjoyable as possible so that the children develop a positive attitude to the learning of Modern Foreign Languages. Children's confidence is built through praise for any contribution they make, however tentative. The useful video lessons with a French speaking teacher are thorough and enable all children to listen, repeat, pronounce, learn and embed a range of phrases and vocabulary, providing them with a solid foundation for taking the language on to the next level in Key Stage Three and beyond. Some teaching staff are competent and confident when speaking French and can use the resources, including the video lessons, to tailor the content to their classes.

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## 2.3 Coverage & themes in PLN

Overview of Focusses in Primary French SoW

Key: Progression in 4 skills, Culture example highlighted, Grammar example highlighted adjectives, Year 6 Celebration				
Term	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Autumn Term 1	A new start	My school, your school Age/days Introducing teacher and friends Classroom objects	My school /your school Subjects Likes and dislikes	My everyday life/ your everyday life a comparison of routines Time
Autumn Term 2	The calendar and celebrations  Christmas	My local area /your local area Shops Everyday shopping Shopping for gifts Christmas	Where I live / where you live Buildings and places of interest  Christmas (shopping)	Where I live/where you live House and home  Christmas (comic performance)
Spring Term 1	Epiphany  Animals I like/ don't like	Epiphany  A family tree Faces	New Year Celebrations Healthy Eating Shopping at the market	New Year Celebrations Playing sport and enjoying sport How to play certain sports
Spring Term 2	Carnival, colours and playground games  Easter	Celebrating carnival Parts of the body and descriptions Our own class aliens Easter	Carnival Colours Clothes descriptions Fashion shows	This is me! Preferences/feelings and characteristics All the fun of the fair Fairground rides and opinions/descriptions
Summer Term 1	Food we eat everyday – fruit and breakfast foods	Feeling well / unwell Jungle animals and fantastical animals	Weather and countries Weather forecasts	Going to the restaurant and cafe culture
Summer Term 2	Going on a picnic!	Summertime Weather Seasons Ice creams	Going to the beach	Performances! Simple plays to perform for pleasure for each other/ other year groups

## 2.4 Assessment:

Teachers assess children's progress formatively during lessons, evaluating progress against the four national Attainment Targets of:

1. Listening and Responding
2. Speaking
3. Reading and responding
4. Writing

Teachers implement the school's feedback policy across all lessons, supporting pupils to refine their pronunciation through questioning techniques and repetition.

## 3.1 Monitoring and Evaluation:

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the subject lead for MFL and Heads of Phase/Year.

The quality of French teaching will be evaluated through lesson drop ins, pupil voice, work sampling.

The link MFL school governor will support the monitoring of this subject area at least annually (e.g. via our Governor Day).

**Date of Policy: June 2007**

**Reviewed: December 2021**

**Next Review Due: December 2026**

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